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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/720,718	12/28/2000	Okie Tani	108249	3998

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EXAMINER

ROGERS, SCOTT A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/720,718

Applicant(s)

TANI, OKIE

Examiner

Scott A Rogers

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claims 1-3 and 46-48 are drawn to a method for linking a plurality of colors provided in advance with information (e.g., computer objects) and expressing said information by different colors.

Group II, claims 4-6 and 49-50 are drawn to a method for linking different color numerical values to information (e.g., computer objects) and expressing information by the color numerical values.

Group III, claims 7-8 and 11-14 are drawn to a method for arranging all computer objects to be handled at a corresponding one of a plurality of computer object groups.

Group IV, claims 9-10 are drawn to a method for establishing cyclic object relations so that a computer object after conversion becomes the same as the computer object before conversion,

Group V, claims 15-24 are drawn to a method for converting a computer object to a predetermined corresponding color and recording a color entity on a recording medium.

Group VI, claims 25-31 are drawn to a method for regenerating a computer object from said input color based on a correspondence there between.

Group VII, claim 32 is drawn to a method for regenerating from a received color numerical value, a corresponding computer object or color.

Group VIII, claims 33-36 are drawn to a recording medium able to output a color entity for expressing a computer object.

Group IX, claims 37-39 are drawn to an apparatus for judging the possibility of acceptance of a series of color values and reproduction of computer objects.

Group X, claims 40-41 are drawn to a method for assigning a specific function to one or more specific colors based on a color-object relation.

Group XI, claim 42 is drawn to a method for linking printable graphic attributes and color with a computer object.

Group XII, claim 43 is drawn to a method for mixing on the same recording medium, a recording of a computer object based on a color entity or numeric value, and a recording a computer object not based on the same.

Group XIII, claim 44 is drawn to a method for linking a single computer object to a combination of different general colors and recording the computer object with a plurality of color dots arranged continuously or arbitrarily on a recording medium.

Group XIV, claim 45 is drawn to a method for establishing a color-object relation when there are a plurality of color entities output in advance or determined for output.

The inventions listed as Groups I-XIV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or


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corresponding special technical features described above which characterized the novelty of each invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott A Rogers by telephone at 703-305-4726 and by e-mail address at [scott.rogers@uspto.gov](mailto:scott.rogers@uspto.gov).

The official fax number for Technology Center 2600 where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to TC 2600 Customer Service at 703-306-0377.

  
SCOTT ROGERS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

21 March 2004